

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:PBSWIERS
APPROVED BY EUR:JEGOODBY
NSC:REHUNTER
EUR/RPM:WSHINN, JR.
S/MS:MDSHULMAN
EUR/SOV:MGARRISON

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PORG

SUBJECT: ALLIANCE EAST-WEST STUDY-FEBRUARY 27 NAC MEETING

REFS: (A) USNATO 1620; (B) STATE 45045

1. US PARTICIPANTS AND OTHER CONCERNED WASHINGTON
OFFICIALS HAVE REVIEWED REFTEL A SUGGESTIONS FOR US
APPROACH AT FEBRUARY 27 NAC MEETING ON THE ALLIANCE
EAST-WEST STUDY. WE CONCUR IN FIRST OPTION SUGGESTED
BY MISSION FOR HANDLING PART THREE AT MEETING (PARAGRAPH 3A

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OF REFTEL A) BUT MISSION SHOULD SOUND OUT ALLIES ON THIS
APPROACH AND INFORM WASHINGTON OF RESULTS BY OPENING OF
BUSINESS WASHINGTON TIME, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24. IN
DISCUSSION WITH FRENCH, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT FEB 27 US
APPROACH TO DISCUSSION OF EAST-WEST STUDY WORK BEYOND
THAT ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED WILL SEEK TO AVOID NEED FOR
FORMAL ALLIANCE POSITIONS OR AGREEMENTS ON SPECIFIC

APPROACHES TO THE REMAINING WORK. WE WOULD APPRECIATE FRENCH FLEXIBILITY IN RETURN.

2. FYI: CONCERNING MODALITIES OF PURSUING FIRST OPTION, WE WOULD ASSUME THAT NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE DELEGATIONS AT THE SAME TIME THEY WERE REFERRED TO SPC FOR PREPARATION OF SYNTHESIS. THIS POINT IS IMPORTANT TO US AS WE WOULD PLAN TO FORWARD OUR OWN DRAFT PART III (REFTEL B) SUFFICIENTLY IN ADVANCE OF AGREED DUE DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN EFFORT TO INFLUENCE OTHER ALLIED VIEWS PRIOR TO SPC DELIBERATIONS.

3. WE PROPOSE TO HANDLE SUBSTANCE OF PART THREE AT FEBRUARY 27 MEETING IN GENERAL TERMS IN OUR OPENING STATEMENT. WHILE NOT REFERRING TO PART III DIRECTLY, WE WOULD DISCUSS CONCLUSIONS WE HAVE DRAWN FROM PARTS I AND II. OUR PRESENTATION WOULD BE BASED ON THE DRAFT OUTLINE FORWARDED IN REFTEL B AS ADJUSTED BY MISSION COMMENTS AND ANY RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON WORKING GROUP. AMBASSADOR SHULMAN WILL ALSO INCLUDE IN HIS PRESENTATION A SHORT OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT STATE OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS.

4. IF FEB 27 DISCUSSION INDICATES A NEED TO DROP THE TERM "PART III," WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO SO
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AS LONG AS THE SUBSTANCE REMAINS. THIS SECTION OF STUDY COULD BE CALLED "CONCLUDING OVERVIEW" OR ANY OTHER TITLE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL ALLIES AS LONG AS A

SUFFICIENT SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENT REMAINS, OR IT COULD SIMPLY BE TACKED ON TO PART II. IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE ON FORM BUT WE ATTACH A GREAT DEAL OF IMPORTANCE TO THE SUBSTANCE, BOTH FOR THE VALUE OF THE EFFORT ITSELF AND FOR ITS USE AS A SPRINGBOARD FOR A SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC INITIATIVE AT THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT. END FYI.

5. PLEASE REPEAT REPORT REQUESTED IN PARAGRAPH I TO GENEVA SLUGGED FOR HUNTER.

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